

Historical Advisory Committee (HAC)
Meeting Minutes March 11, 2015
Meeting held at Randy Spence Park, in El Jobean

Committee Members

Sue Blackwell (55/72)
Michael Haymans (30/55)
Scot Shively (65/68)
Larry Peck(10/13)
Dianne Munson (8/13)
Emma-Lou Craig (4/5)
Carol Leonard(1/1)

Present

Larry Peck
Scot Shively
Dianne Munson
Emma Lou-Craig
Sue Blackwell
Michael Haymans
Carol Leonard

Not Present

Staff

Commissioner Stephen R. Deutsch
Tommy Scott, Director, Community Svcs Dept.
Jackie Brown, Historian
Crystal Diff, Programs Coordinator
Jackie Anderson, Program Assistant

Guests

Commissioner Cheryl Cook, North Port

9:03 a.m. Call to Order, Roll Call

Old Business – Carl Bailey Cemetery Historical Marker

HAC Appointments and Terms of Office – Currently the HAC has one at Large vacancy, and the El Jobean Community League (EJCL) position that needs to be filled. EJCL member, Bev Cisco and Commissioner Deutsch are working on getting Jim Marshal to return to the HAC to represent the League.

New Business – This is Carol Leonard's first meeting as an at Large member. The County has posted the remaining vacant at Large HAC position. Discussion as mentioned having the at Large HAC members working to represent historical matters with their various other organizations to possibly increase awareness within the county.

Future Historical Markers, the committee discussed the remaining County owned cemetery, Hickory Bluff. Committee discussion brought up the possibility that Hickory Bluff may be better suited to be marked with a historical interpretive marker that would discuss the areas fishing history and possibly include another close by lost cemetery. Another area for marker consideration would be Charlotte Harbor, near the end of Parmely Street for the early Charlotte Harbor settlement. Also discussed was a historical plaque program that would mark buildings in the County that would qualify as historic. A program would have to be developed.

Southland Cemetery Historical Marker- Planning for an April or May dedication. Michael Haymans recommended a change in the marker text and revisions to clarify the text was discussed. A motion for the Marker's text was approval with the recommended changes made by Michael Haymans. A vote to accept was unanimously approved. Due to the austere location of the Southland Trail Cemetery, a detailed map will be produced for dedication ceremony visitors. Following the meeting, available HAC members along with County Staff made a field trip visit to the Southland Trail Cemetery for orientation and to select possible marker locations.

Fundraising – Confirmed that Bunkhouse T-shirts would be available during the scheduled March "Cookie House" tour.

Historic Surveys – County Historian Jackie Brown discussed the following property surveys:
310 Weber Terrace, Port Charlotte, within a Historical buffer, new construction, released from review.
1850 Gulf Blvd, Englewood located within a Historical Buffer, addition and was released from review.

6761 Portside Lane, Englewood, located within a Historical Buffer, pool cabana was release from review.
149 Dow Rd., Port Charlotte located within a Historical Buffer, concrete wall was released from review.
3631 Tamiami Trail, Port Charlotte located within a Historical Buffer, fence and was released from review.

Historical Staff report- Harbor Explorers program was presented at Mid County Regional Library and Englewood Library. Both events were well attended and received praise by parents and children. A special tour will be given on March 20th, 2015 for a group of home schooled children. The Indian Spring Cemetery Tour was a great success; ticket sales were slow in February and remained on sale until the day of the tour, when sales drastically picked up. Due to the museum being closed, outreach programs are being pushed, along with collaboration with the libraries for children programs, and working with Lifelong Learning Institute as well as the Blanchard House Museum. Historical Center will be able to host small sized programs at Grace Street in the meeting area.

Long Range Plan – The Historical Center is working on their Long Range Plan for the Center's future. Plans include planning for a new museum to be opened in 2-3 years. The location of the future museum has not been decided. Discussion also focused on working with the Charlotte County Tourism Bureau more often to determine seasonal tourist's trends and interests, along with local's needs and interests.

History Programs & Exhibits- The third and final scheduled Cookie House Tour will be March 21, 2015. Crystal Diff will be giving a lecture to the Rotonda Women's Club about the Cookie House at 12pm, March 12th, 2015. The lecture will be held at the American Legion Post #113, located on Cape Haze Drive. Historical Center upcoming event, "Shakespeare in the Park" will be held at Bayshore Live Oak Park, April 24th, 2015.

Archives and "Friends of the Englewood Archives" – A regular schedule is for archiving work is being developed post move to Grace Street. Additionally a large collection of local newspapers are being inventoried at Grace Street for processing.

Preservation project updates –

Cookie House- Is in the process of being added to the National Register.

Bunkhouse- To be submitted for 2016/2017 state grant cycle .Submission Sept. 2015

Mercer Cemetery- Added to the 2016 & 2017 Budget cycle (if approved). Needs an RPA to do a preliminary survey.

Dock in front of CCHC- Added to 2016 & 2017 budget cycle and RPA to do preliminary survey.

Historical Center update – Historical Center materials and personnel have moved into Grace Street Annex. The Charlotte County Historical Center's Museum on Bayshore Road has closed. CCHC services are still available to public.

Citizen Input – None

Member Input and Announcements –

- **Larry Peck** - Charlotte County Genealogical Society (CCGS) will present program: "Let's Pound Some Holes in Your Genealogy Brick Wall". Attendees will have to go to the website to buy tickets, fill out the application for admission. Event will be March 18th, 2015.
- **Sue Blackwell** - Punta Gorda Historical Society will host their annual Historical House Tours, March 20 and 21 in downtown Punta Gorda. Tickets will be \$15 and are on sale at the featured houses or the Woman's Club.
- **Michael Haymans** – Punta Gorda Historical Society will present, "A Century in Motion" a previous historical play that has been re-vamped. The play will be held at the Charlotte Performing Art Center (PCAC) on March 14th, 2015 at 7 p.m. Tickets on sale. A major fundraiser will be held at the Charlotte Harbor Event Center for the Punta Gorda History Center. Attendees are encouraged to dress up in period clothing for the event that is scheduled, April 17, 2015. Proceeds from the event will go towards the facility that will preserve and maintain the Vernon Peoples Archives/ Collections.

- Dianne Munson – About 800 children attended this year's Florida Frontier Days. An annual Book Fair for The Friends of the Mid-County Regional Library will be held on March 14th, 2015 10 am - 3 pm. The Hibiscus Festival will be held on May 15th, 16th, 17th 2015 in downtown Punta Gorda. Details can be found on their website at: <http://www.thehibiscusfestival.com/> for more information.
- Emma-Lou Craig – Over 100 people attended the Green Street Church for the "History of Englewood" play. Bill Davis will be speaking about the history of the Green Street Church. Frank and Louie Desguin will be giving a lecture about the history of Punta Gorda in Englewood.
- Scot Shively- He will be judging the Charlotte County's annual History Fair along with Crystal Diff and Jackie Brown on March 18th, 2015 5-9 p.m. at the Charlotte Town Center.

Adjournment – 11:00 am

Next HAC Meeting:

HAC monthly meeting- 9 A.M., Wednesday April 8th, 2015 meeting will be held at The Grace Street Annex, 514 East Grace Street, Punta Gorda FL, 33950

cc:

Commissioner Ken Doherty	Commissioner Tricia Duffy
Commissioner Stephen R. Deutsch	Ray Sandrock, County Administrator
Commissioner Bill Truex,	Kelly Shoemaker, Deputy County Administrator
Commissioner Christopher Constance	Tommy Scott, Director, Community Svcs Dept.